

EXHIBIT A

Benchmark US 2020 awards - New York winners announced!

27 February 2020 | by Michael Rafalowich

Tags: Debevoise & Plimpton Wiggin and Dana Polsinelli Ulmer & Berne Kirkland & Ellis Blackwell Burke Simpson Thacher & Bartlett Gass Weber Mullins Sills Cummis & Gross United States (National) Alabama Arkansas Connecticut District of Columbia Delaware Florida Iowa Illinois Indiana Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Massachusetts Maryland Maine Michigan Minnesota Missouri Mississippi North Carolina North Dakota New Hampshire New Jersey New York Ohio Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina Tennessee Texas Virginia Vermont Wisconsin West Virginia Georgia (State) Dispute resolution

On February 27th **Benchmark Litigation** hosted the first part of its ninth annual US awards in which it recognized the country's most distinguished litigators and their firms for their work over the past twelve months.

This year for the first time the brand is having two separate ceremonies, one on the East coast at the **Pierre, New York** on February 27 and one on the West coast at **The St Regis, San Francisco** on March 5.

In New York the sold-out audience saw Katherine Forrest of Cravath Swaine & Moore and Ted Wells of Paul Weiss inducted into the *Benchmark Litigation Hall of Fame*. Wells also took the coveted award of "*Trial Lawyer of the Year*."

Another highlight of the evening was Simpson Thacher's Jonathan Youngwood collecting the *Pro Bono* award for his firm for its work in the Brown v. Madison County case concerning racially motivated policing.

Firms from over half of the states plus DC were represented in the room. More firms will be attending the inaugural West Coast ceremony on March 14. Please click the link below to see the shortlist for that ceremony or email rebecca.synnott@euromoneyn.com for more details.

Benchmark US Awards West Coast Ceremony shortlist

Photographs from the New York award ceremony may be found [HERE](#).

Congratulations to the winners, all of which are listed below:

STATE FIRM AWARDS

Alabama Firm of the Year

Lightfoot Franklin & White

Arkansas Firm of the Year

Quattlebaum Grooms & Tull

Connecticut Firm of the Year

Wiggin and Dana

Delaware Firm of the Year

Ross Aronstam & Moritz

District of Columbia Firm of the Year

Williams & Connolly

Florida Firm of the Year

Podhurst Orseck

Georgia Firm of the Year

King & Spalding

Illinois Firm of the Year

Kirkland & Ellis

Indiana Firm of the Year

Faegre Baker Daniels

Iowa Firm of the Year

Nyemaster Goode

Kansas Firm of the Year

Rouse Frets Goss White Gentile & Rhodes

Kentucky Firm of the Year

Stites & Harbison

Louisiana Firm of the Year

Barrasso Usdin Kupperman Freeman & Sarver

Maine Firm of the Year

Preti Flaherty Beliveau & Pachios

Maryland Firm of the Year

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough

Massachusetts Firm of the Year

Choate Hall & Stewart

Michigan Firm of the Year

Bodman

Minnesota Firm of the Year

Blackwell Burke

Mississippi Firm of the Year

Brunini Grantham Grower & Hewes

Missouri Firm of the Year

Polsinelli

New Hampshire Firm of the Year

Nixon Peabody

New Jersey Firm of the Year

Sills Cummis & Gross

New York Firm of the Year

Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz

North Carolina Firm of the Year

Smith Anderson

North Dakota Firm of the Year

Zuger Kirmis & Smith

Ohio Firm of the Year

Ulmer & Berne

Pennsylvania Firm of the Year

Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr

Rhode Island Firm of the Year

Adler Pollock & Sheehan

South Carolina Firm of the Year

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough

Tennessee Firm of the Year

Bradley

Texas Firm of the Year

Gibbs & Bruns

Vermont Firm of the Year

Paul Frank + Collins

Virginia Firm of the Year

Hunton Andrews Kurth

West Virginia Firm of the Year

Bowles Rice

Wisconsin Firm of the Year

Gass Weber Mullins

PRACTICE AREA FIRMS OF THE YEAR

Antitrust Firm of the Year

Winston & Strawn

Appellate Firm of the Year

Gibson Dunn & Crutcher

Bankruptcy Firm of the Year

Proskauer

General Commercial Firm of the Year

Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison

Insurance Firm of the Year

Blank Rome

Intellectual Property Firm of the Year

Williams & Connolly

International Arbitration Firm of the Year

Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton

Product Liability Firm of the Year

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough

Securities Firm of the Year

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett

White Collar Crime/Enforcement/Investigations Firm of the Year

Debevoise & Plimpton

Boutique Firm of the Year Firm of the Year

Kaplan Hecker & Fink

Plaintiff Firm of the Year

Pomerantz

Trial Firm of the Year

Bartlit Beck

LABOR & EMPLOYMENT AWARDS

Labor & Employment Management-Side Firm of the Year

Seyfarth Shaw

Labor & Employment Management-Side Attorney of the Year

Elise Bloom

Proskauer

Labor & Employment Employee-Side Firm of the Year

Sanford Heisler & Sharp

Labor & Employment Employee-Side Attorney of the Year

Shannon Liss-Riordan
Lichten & Liss-Riordan

PRACTICE AREA ATTORNEYS OF THE YEAR

Antitrust Attorney of the Year

Kevin Orsini
Cravath Swaine & Moore

Appellate Attorney of the Year

Willy Jay
Goodwin

Bankruptcy Attorney of the Year

Martin Bienenstock
Proskauer

General Commercial Attorney of the Year

Orin Snyder
Gibson Dunn & Crutcher

Insurance Attorney of the Year

Robert Horkovich
Anderson Kill

Intellectual Property Attorney of the Year

Max Tribble
Susman & Godfrey

International Arbitration Attorney of the Year

Michael Kim
Kobre & Kim

Product Liability Attorney of the Year

Allison Brown
Skadden

Securities Attorney of the Year

Adam Hakki
Shearman & Sterling

White Collar Crime/Investigations/Enforcement Attorney of the Year

Sean Hecker
Kaplan Hecker & Fink

Plaintiff Attorney of the Year

Bill Reid
Reid Collins & Tsai

Trial Lawyer of the Year

Ted Wells

Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison

HALL OF FAME

Katherine Forrest

Cravath Swaine & Moore

Ted Wells

Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison

IMPACT CASES

- *New York v. ExxonMobil (Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison)*
- *US v. Bogucki (Kaplan Hecker & Fink)*
- *CNN v. Trump (Gibson Dunn & Crutcher)*
- *Title Source Inc. v. HouseCanary Inc. (Susman Godfrey)*
- *O'Connor v. Uber (Gibson Dunn & Crutcher; Lichten & Liss-Riordan)*
- *In re the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico (Proskauer)*
- *Boston Cab Dispatch v. Uber (Boies Schiller & Flexner)*
- *Brown vs. Madison County (Simpson Thacher & Bartlett)*
- *Fiat Chrysler settlements (Sullivan & Cromwell; Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein; and Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton)*
- *Sears Chapter 11 (Weil Gotshal & Manges; Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton; Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison; and Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld)*

Pro Bono Firm of the Year

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett

Once again, we at *Benchmark Litigation* extend our congratulations to all of the evening's winners and attendees and thank our guests for their continuing support of our projects.

The new *Benchmark Litigation* research cycle is already underway. Firms can register their interest, find full timelines and a list of FAQs, and download all relevant documents [HERE](#).

Related articles

- Blackwell Burke Secures 1st Posthumous Pardon in Minnesota

- Gordon Rees adds commercial trio in Philadelphia and New York
- Q&A with Allegra Lawrence-Hardy of Lawrence & Bundy
- Q&A with Weil Gotshal's David Lender & Luna Barrington
- Reed Smith adds lawyers in Dallas and Philadelphia

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